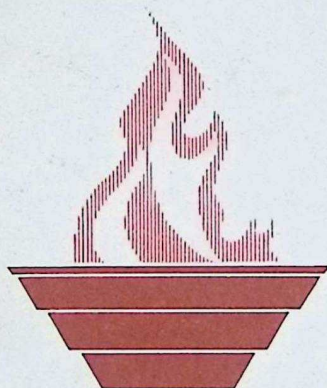


AGNIHOTRA

– Process of Purification of The Atmosphere –

A SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE



Lt. Col. Madan Deshpande

Manohar Madhavji Potdar

**Institute for Studies in Vedic Sciences,
Shivpuri, Akkalkot.**

AGNIHOTRA

– Process of Purification of The Atmosphere –

A SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE

Lt. Col. Madan Deshpande

Manohar Madhavji Potdar

**Institute for Studies in Vedic Sciences,
Shivpuri, Akkalkot.**

Published by :

Institute for Studies in Vedic Sciences,
Shivpuri,
Akkalkot 413 216 (Maharashtra)

5000 copies

13th February, 1990

© All Rights Reserved

Laser Typesetting by :

P. C. Systems

Nitin Apartments, Plot No. 41, Survey No. 585,
Gultekadi, Pune - 411 009.

Printed At :

K. Joshi & Co.

Block Makers & Offset Printers

Near Bhikardas Maruti Temple

Pune - 411 030. Tel. - 441409

Rupees Ten

Agnihotra

– Process of Purification of the Atmosphere –
– Scientific Perspective –

AGNIHOTRA is the basic form of Yajnya tuned to the bio-rhythm of sunrise/sunset. Yajnya is the process of purification of the atmosphere through the agency of fire. It is performed for the purification of the atmosphere. It is stated that by inducing a change in the atmosphere you bring about change in the functioning of Prana (life energy). Prana and mind are like two sides of the same coin and hence beneficial change is transposed to the realm of the mind.

The layer of useful atmosphere surrounding the earth is very thin. Automobile pollution, pollution due to factory exhausts, water pollution, noise pollution, the disturbance caused to marine biology due to the disposal of nuclear waste in the oceans, the effect of radiation on human physiology, indiscriminate cutting of forests for raw materials, indiscriminate probings into the bowels of the earth for raw materials to feed the industrial complexes, indiscriminate use of pesticides, insecticides, chemical fertilizers, deodorants, all these adversely affect the atmosphere. This leads to tension on the mind and an increase in the incidence of disease, nervousness and psychiatric care. All this must go if we wish to be happy.

Agnihotra is a process in the science of bioenergy given through the Vedas. The word Vedas literally means knowledge, coming from the Sanskrit verb *Vid*, meaning to know. The English word *Wit* comes from the same root. Vedas are the ancient-most word combinations known to man.

Vedas describe Agnihotra as a process of fumigation also. Agnihotra, if practiced regularly, yields great healing power to the atmosphere as well as to the individual. In several countries of

Europe, and the continents of America and Asia, folk medicines are prepared from Agnihotra ash and its application in various ailments is proving to be very beneficial. Today, it is popularly known as Homa Therapy.

Agnihotra has three disciplines : burning of specific organic substances in a copper pyramid, mantra and specific timings corresponding to one circadian rhythm of nature i. e. sunrise/sunset. If you miss any of these than it is not Agnihotra.

Vibratory effect of certain metals such as copper and gold are known to science. When specific substances are burned in a copper pyramid with a specific mantra at exact timings of sunrise/sunset, a specific effect is guaranteed to occur.

Sunrise and sunset are the timings for Agnihotra. You can find timings in an almanac, which should be adjusted to local time or you may consult the nearest weather station. We would be glad to help you find the sunrise/sunset timings you need if you tell us the latitude and longitude of your location.

Agnihotra is a wholistic system, powerful in a subtle way and positively result oriented. It has now attracted the attention of keen researchers and scientists the world over. The scientists, today, are in a dilemma. They are fully aware of the fast deteriorating conditions of the planet due to pollution but as they cannot suddenly discourage or check the rapidly heading technological advance they do not know how to save the humanity from the inevitable consequences. They are faced with the utmost difficult task of finding a solution to pollution. Now, they are told that Agnihotra is the only way, the only remedy. An antidote. The effects of Agnihotra are so beneficial and wide ranging that efforts are now being made to evaluate it scientifically through multi-disciplinary approach.

When we look at the present day world with ever increasing problems cropping up due to pollution of all kinds, climaxing with thought pollution, we shudder in revulsion. Over the years we have already proved our inability to tackle these problems effectively, on the contrary, we have further complicated and aggravated them. Nothing can help unless we rely on the ancient-most but truly reliable guidance given through the Supreme Truth, the Vedas. As a general principle the scientist has to base his considerations on the fact that many things useful to mankind are still scientifically unexplored.

Eventually, he is now directed to seek what he is frantically searching for in the Supreme Wisdom, as defined by the Vedas. Agnihotra is the key to that storehouse of knowledge. He will be astonished to learn that tremendous amounts of energy are gathered around the Agnihotra copper pyramid just at the Agnihotra time. This energy field neutralises the negative type of energy and reinforces the positive pattern of energy.

The charishma of Agnihotra is attracting people everywhere. Innumerable people all over the world are practicing daily Agnihotra and, this number is unimaginably growing larger everyday. Agnihotra entertains no barriers, geographical or cultural, may it be the heights of Andes mountains in South America or the Deccan Plateau in India or the most modern and technologically advanced United States of America or countries like Poland, Brazil, Peru and continents of Australia, Europe, Africa everywhere it has been received as the most comforting, energising and reliable instrument to counter the evils of pollution.

Agnihotra allows energy transformation at different levels. Commenting on Agnihotra one scientist has said "the chemical reactions which take place when Agnihotra fire burns are less important... If you look into the more subtle structure of fire, you will find that electrons jump from one atom to some other atom..." ('Homa Therapy Our Last Chance'). We have to view Agnihotra with unbiased mind since it is not a faith healer or kind of an auto-suggestion but is a truly scientific process which definitely needs honest scientific exploration for the benefit of humanity at large.

Already the researchers and the scientists all over the world are curious and have started experimenting on Agnihotra. One single factor has prompted them to deviate from their routine and that is positive human experience. We may not fully accept an elaborate armchair theory or some complicated process but we have to accept our own experience in true scientific perspective. Agnihotra gives you this unique opportunity. The process is very simple and can be performed by anybody. The modus operandi is as follows :

There are five basic things necessary in the performance of Agnihotra viz. i) Definite Timings (sunrise/sunset), ii) Fire (cow-dung cake fire), iii) Pyramid shaped copper pot of a specific size, iv) Offerings of raw rice together with cow's pure ghee and, v) Mantras.

I) **Definite timings** : Agnihotra is performed at the circadian rhythm of sunrise and sunset every day. The exact time of sunrise and sunset is very important because "At sunrise many fires and electricities, ethers and more subtler energies emanating from the sun extend all the way to earth and produce a flood effect. It is awesome! The flood enlivens and purifies everything in the path... The morning Agnihotra mantra is the essence of that music. It is the quintessential sound of that flood. At sunset the flood recedes." (-Vasant Paranjpe, 'Light Towards Divine Path', Five Fold Path Mission, 1977).

At sunset time the growth of pathogenic bacteria is alarming and hence Agnihotra performed at this time has the bacteriostatic effect on the atmosphere.

II) **Fire** : Fire is prepared using dried cow-dung cakes in the pyramid shaped pot. The presence of chemicals like Menthol, Ammonia, Phenol, Indol, Formalin enhances the medicinal properties of cow dung. Its disinfectant values are well known. If the cow-dung cakes are moist or damp due to climatic conditions help of dry twigs of trees of specified varieties is advised. Vata-'*Ficus Bengalenensis*', Audumbara -'*Ficus Glomerata*', Palaash - '*Butea Frondosa*', Peepal - '*Ficus Religiosa*' and Bel -'*Egle marmelos*' are the specified varieties. Twigs of these trees are medicinal. Cow-dung, of course, is the essential ingredient.

Fire should be prepared 8-10 minutes before Agnihotra time with either gugul (*boswellia serrata*), camphor or cotton wicks duly soaked in cow ghee. Pieces of dry cow-dung are arranged in the pot in such a way so that air can circulate and proper combustion is possible. Fire should be ready and ablaze at Agnihotra time. There should be no smoke. It should be a flaming fire.

III) **Pyramid shaped copper pot** : Copper pyramid of a prescribed size is recommended. This size is 14.5 cms. x 14.5 cms. at the top, 5.25 x 5.25 cms. at the bottom and 6.5 cms. in height. The pyramid shape of the pot is very important. Pyramid powers are very well known for the fact that the shape of the pyramid accumulates inside it electromagnetic waves or cosmic waves. This phenomenon has aroused the curiosity of many the world over for centuries now. Several man hours have so far been spent on researching this unique phenomenon. Finally, in 1969, Dr Amr Gohed made a startling report to the 'Times of London' saying that "the scientists had reached an

impasse... the pyramid defies all known laws of science and electronics'. Interestingly, the word 'pyramid' originates from the Greek 'pyr' meaning FIRE and 'amid' meaning CENTRE. It denotes a specific shape having fire or cosmic energies at its centre.

IV) Offerings : Unbroken, full rice grains and cow ghee (clarified butter, unsalted) without preservatives or chemicals is necessary. Only two pinches of rice grains, preferably brown rice, for each time of Agnihotra is required. Two drops of cow ghee is smeared to the rice and two offerings, one after the other, are offered to the fire, starting exactly at sunrise time and again two offerings at sunset time, while uttering the specified mantras. These two ingredients, rice and cow's pure ghee, are essential and not replaceable.

V) Mantras to be uttered :

- At Sunrise -

Suryaya Svaha. Suryaya Idam Na Mama.

सूर्याय स्वाहा । सूर्याय इदं न मम ।

(Release the first portion of rice smeared with cow's ghee in the fire)

Prajapataye Svaha. Prajapataye Idam Na Mama.

प्रजापतये स्वाहा । प्रजापतये इदं न मम ।

(Release the second portion of rice smeared with cow's ghee in the fire.)

This completes the morning (Sunrise) Agnihotra.

- At Sunset -

Agnaye Svaha. Agnaye Idam Na Mama.

अग्नये स्वाहा । अग्नये इदं न मम ।

(Release the first portion of rice smeared with cow's ghee in the fire)

Prajapataye Svaha. Prajapataye Idam Na Mama.

प्रजापतये स्वाहा । प्रजापतये इदं न मम ।

(Release the second portion of rice smeared with cow's ghee in the fire.)

This completes the evening (Sunset) Agnihotra.

After the offerings are made one can sit and try to concentrate or meditate for as many minutes as one feels like and can spare. This

helps in unburdening the mind and you feel more relaxed and energetic. Tensions are removed. Agnihotra is the basis of wholistic healing. The mantras are the 'original' words in Sanskrit which cause specific vibrations useful for the mind and the atmosphere. Sanskrit is the mother of all languages but it is nobody's mother-tongue. All languages contain words from Sanskrit but not a single word that comes from any language is in Sanskrit.

Jean Le Mée in his introduction to the book 'HYMNS FROM THE RIG-VEDA' writes that "Sanskrit is a term meaning "perfected", "well-made", "polished". It is the artificial language *par excellence*, patiently refined sound by sound, bearing in all its details the imprint of conscious work, constructed on the very principle of thought, of creation, in a fashion similar to that of mathematics but more flexible and wide-ranging in its applications. Embracing all the levels of being, physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual, instead of nearly exclusive intellectual component of mathematics, it is ideally suited to describe and govern the nature of phenomena from the spiritual level to the physical. This range of applicability in the realm of nature paradoxically makes this most artificial language into the most natural language, the language of nature. Sanskrit is built in such a way that virtually every word in the language can be derived from a root, a monosyllabic sound unit having a general significance in the sphere of action."

Exuberantly lauding the Vedic verses the writer says, "Each verse is a formula, precisely measured, which carries the directions, the forces, and the illumination required for the work. Hence the importance of the meter and of the quality of the sound to these engineers of the Divine (referring the ancient seers). For the meter which governs the rhythms of the verse is symbolic of the cosmic rhythm itself. There are three such basic meters which by combination give the seven meters representing the seven rhythms, the seven pranas governing the whole process of life. The sounds that these rhythms articulate are the vibrations travelling through the four substances, the four levels of being or of speech, from the absolute state, transcendent, unaffected by anything, to the causal state, where meanings are universal and undifferentiated, to the mental state, where they are formed into separate thoughts, and finally to the physical state of utterance, where they are heard by the ear. It is in the second stage, the causal, that the vision takes place; this is where the mantra is

perceived by the seer. With the third stage, the mental, comes the rhythm, and with the fourth, the articulated sound itself. The arrangements of these articulated sounds are the creation of the Rishis, while the ideas and their truth are simply seen and heard by them."

The Agnihotra mantras are from the basic Vedic text handed down right from the time of Creation.

Agnihotra being the perfect tool for the well-being and safety of all life on planet earth its practice is recommended to be universal. Any human being, no matter to what colour and country he belongs, can practice it. All will have the same beneficial experience. It sets up a life pattern based on bio-psychological techniques given through Vedas. One should believe only in what one experiences and that is the correct scientific approach.

The present day universal concern about the evils of pollution has generated interest for Agnihotra among many workers in various fields. Already the experimentation and systematic studies are being carried out in various disciplines. An attempt is made here to review the scientific literature including personal communications in the diverse fields viz. Medicine, Agriculture, Bio-energy including Radiesthesia, Psychotronics, Eloptic Field studies, Nature Cure, Ecology etc. A brief resume of the work done so far is compiled hereunder for the benefit of all concerned, for reievw and future planning.

FIELD OF MEDICINE

The medical science has taken long strides of magnificent achievements in the recent past. The advances in every branch of medical science are rapid and awesome. The impact of these strides is so great that the society has developed a sort of modern superstition that everything is possible with today's advancement in medical field. At the same time, however, many questions boggle the mind. Despite these advances we do not have satisfactory answers to various self created problems viz. side effects of the drugs, resistance to essential drugs, unnatural responses to drugs, medico-legal ethics etc. The very approach of today's medical science is veering towards either repair or replacement oriented service whereas need of the day is wholistic approach. To further aggravate the problems, pollution has created a new field of responsibility. The scope and devastating effect of

pollution on the human mind and body are not yet fully known leave alone the management of these problems.

Present encouragement and the fast growing interest towards the ancient medical systems viz. Ayurveda, Nature Cure, Yoga and the like is an indication that there is need for a better and effective medical system. This is evident from the fact that in the Western countries 'Medicina Alternativa' conferences are regularly held to find out the possible final answer to problems of human health. Agnihotra is the ancient most system of therapy with a total wholistic approach towards health. Considerable work has been done so far in this wholistic healing science. Some highlights are given herebelow :

A) Agnihotra cures Drug Addiction :

One of the effects of pollution is thought pollution. This is serious. We know today that the population of Drug Addicts is threateningly increasing day by day. The problem of drug addiction is a global one and the dependence on hard drugs like Smack (Heroin) has alarmingly increased. In India, especially in metropolitan cities, it has become a great challenge to the professionals, police and social services. It may be possible to deaddict a well motivated person but the present day 'all routine' and innovative modern therapies almost fail to deaddict a demotivated drug abuser. This difficult area was chosen to experiment effect of Agnihotra on a demotivated and resistant case of drug addict, by Lt. Col. G. R. Golechha, now Sr. Advisor, Psychiatry of Indian Army. The experiment was successful and the psychiatrist and his team have made observations and analysed the details. A paper titled 'Agnihotra An Useful Adjunct in Treatment of a Resistant & Demotivated Smack Addict' was presented by Col. Golechha at the 39th Annual Conference of Indian Psychiatric Society on 10th January, 1987 at Calcutta. The Paper is published in the Journal.

An extract of the Paper is given hereunder :

"An officer (of the army) of 25 years age who had been a polydrug-abuser in the past was selected for the study. He was addicted to Heroin (Smack) for 2 years, other drugs included alcohol, cocaine, cannabis and smoking. His dosage schedule of Heroin had already reached 3 grams a day. He had undergone deaddiction programme twice in the past with no benefit and had become demotivated and resistant. When treating Psychiatrists were totally

exhausted of all their efforts to break his resistance and improve motivation, he was introduced to Agnihotra. After 3 days he developed inclination for it and voluntarily joined the group Agnihotra. By the 7th day he took up to perform it himself.

To roughly quantify and compare the improvement a rating scale was developed. It had subjective as well as objective scoring, which was observed and charted. The practice of Agnihotra resulted in improving his motivation to abstain from Smack and decreased his urge for it. Improved motivation further suppressed this urge. It broke his resistance in an insidious but progressive manner in 4 weeks of Agnihotra practice. It reinforced his voluntary efforts to abstain from drugs and thus enhance motivation and reduce psychological dependence. He was further followed up for 15 months. After close scrutiny it was confirmed that there was no recurrence.

All the psycho-therapeutic advances fall short in deaddicting a demotivated addict. Agnihotra is a new hope in this field. It can be used for a group and is easy to perform and practice. It might have acted by producing a state of mind with enhanced tranquility which countered the urge further and curbed the imagery of pleasant experience on its consumption. The bio-physical effects of Agnihotra and its effects on psyche of a person needs to be studied further in all its aspects. The secret of enhanced tranquility of mind which may be due to electromagnetic waves produced at the time of Agnihotra which may be in synchronisation with so to say cosmic radiation present at sunrise-sunset. This field is so far unbelievable to the present scientific community."

(Ref.: Lt. Col. G. R. Golechha, Indian Journal of Psychiatry, 1987, 29 (3) Pp 247-252 - 'Agnihotra Useful Adjunct in Treatment of a Resistant and Demotivated Smack Addict'.)

B) Alcohol Addiction :

Another area of major social concern is Chronic Alcoholism and it is much more rampant today than ever before. Total abstinence from alcohol is difficult. Contrary to this belief however, it is now a common experience throughout the world that regular Agnihotra performers have, without any force or pressure, developed total abstinence from Alcohol in the most natural way.

A study was conducted in this field at Military Hospital, Kirkee, once again by Lt. Col. G. R. Golechha (Sr. Advisor, Psychiatry). He observed that the performance of Agnihotra appeared to be an adjunct in the treatment of chronic alcoholism. He further noted that in case of successful treatment a regular performance of Agnihotra was an important factor. Moreover, he observed that even though very thin there was a relapse of addiction after discontinuation of Agnihotra. A brief extract of his paper titled 'Agnihotra - In the Treatment of Alcoholism' presented at the 41st Annual Conference of Indian Psychiatric Association held at Cuttack in January, 1989, is as follows :

'Agnihotra is a vedic ritual of lighting fire in a copper pyramid pot with use of mantra at sunrise and sunset time. It is found to have neuro-physiological effect on human body and brain. Computerised EEG studies has shown delta wave suppression and alpha wave activation in frontal leads during Agnihotra. Clinically it produces mental tranquility and reported to have useful adjunct effect on deaddiction. In our present study effect of Agnihotra was studied on 18 cases of Alcoholism. It is found that it leads to total abstinence without other restraint after two weeks of continuous Agnihotra practice. An obsessive compliance to perform Agnihotra develops. After discontinuing its practice the effects last for another few weeks. However, it is not a total cure. On stopping Agnihotra relapses may develop after 2 weeks onward in a small percentage of cases. Nevertheless it appears to be an useful adjunct in the treatment of Alcoholism, if performed regularly.'

C) Study of Neuro-physiological parameters :

With advancement of modern technological society the common man is facing a new dimension in the form of terrible stress and mental tension. It upsets the very concept of life. Agnihotra is known to give relief from anxiety and mental tension, and it leaves one free to function normally in a healthy way. Thus, health, peace and tranquility of mind is achieved. The incessant cravings of the mind are quietened and perception acquires clarity. The mental tranquility can be assessed by neuro-physiological responses with modern gadgets. One such bold study was done by Dr. W. Selvamurthy, Scientist-E, Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences, Delhi and a Paper was presented in Yoga conference held at IIT, Delhi on 4th November, 1989. A brief extract is given below :

In the Paper titled 'Physiological Effects of Mantras on Mind and Body' Dr. Selvamurthy has observed neuro-physiological effects of Agnihotra Mantra i.e. two mantras at sunset time. 8 healthy men were chosen for study. They reported at 1600 hours on two consecutive days. First day for control recording when ritual mimicking Agnihotra was performed without reciting mantras but with recital of some irrelevant syllables of the duration of the Agnihotra mantra. Next day evening Agnihotra was performed. Recording of physiological parameters viz. Heart rate, ECG at lead-II, blood pressure recorded by automatic Sphygmomanometer Coupler on 4 channel polygraph. ECG from all limb leads was monitored continuously. Skin temperature from forehead and medial thigh, besides the ambient temperature, recorded. EEG was recorded by placing silver silver-chloride electrodes on the scalp at frontal, parietal and occipital regions of both the hemispheres. Bipolar EEG was recorded in Antepost and transverse leads using an EEG machine. EEG spectral analysis was done using computer model MED 80 (M/s Nicolet Instruments, USA). Package software EEG data were printed out continuously on a TELETYPE Model - 43 printer and the Compressed Spectral Array (CSA) was plotted on Hawlett Packard XY Plotter. Statistical analysis of the data was done and comparisons made between responses recorded in control and Agnihotra atmosphere.

Dr. Selvamurthy observed that heart rate showed a trend of decline during Agnihotra as compared to control. Skin temperature was raised by 1 degree centigrade during Agnihotra whereas control did not show such change.

GSR (galvanic skin resistance) remained significantly higher during Agnihotra as compared to the control session. ECG showed DC shift in the base line. Some extraneous electrical interference like responses were noticed only during the exact period of Sunset Agnihotra.

EEG showed consistent changes. Power in Alpha band increased while there was tendency of suppression in Delta power. The CSA showed trend of leftward shift in the Alpha power with build up of power in Alpha and Theta bands persisting for more than 15 minutes in all montages.

The power spectral analysis showed consistent augmentation of power in all the four bands during Agnihotra, suggesting the occurrence of cerebral cortical synchronisation. Mental tranquility observed could be attributed to the rise in Alpha power by about 20% during the performance. This effect persisted for more than 15 minutes.

Thus, Agnihotra atmosphere has beneficial effects in the form of mental tranquility. Similar such studies will definitely reveal many more valuable information.

D) Agnihotra effects on Microbial count :

It is observed by researchers that Agnihotra virtually purifies the atmosphere by causing reduction in the microbial count. Experiments to assess the effect of Agnihotra on microbes, wound healing, aerial microflora etc. have been successfully conducted at various places. Resume of these is given below.

Dr. A. G. Mondkar, Practicing Microbiologist from Bombay has conducted experiments in 1982 to study the effects of Agnihotra atmosphere on bacterial population. Two rooms of identical dimensions were selected and basal reading of microbial colony count was done in both these rooms after exposure of agar plates for 10 minutes. This was done exactly half an hour before Agnihotra time.

In one of the rooms Agnihotra was performed exactly at sunset and in the control room control fire was produced with the same material but no Agnihotra was performed. Medias were exposed for two hours after Agnihotra. In his interesting experiment Dr. Mondkar has observed that the microbial count in the room where Agnihotra was performed revealed a startling 91.4% reduction in colony count whereas the control did not show any appreciable changes. He has concluded that, it is not a mere fumigation effect but much more than that and needs further exploration.

Further, Dr. Mondkar studied Agnihotra effect on Bio-energetic systems of individual micro-organisms.

A strain of *Staphylococci pyogenes* was taken which showed positive beta haemolysis on blood agar, positive coagulase test and fermented mannitol with the production of acid. This typical pathogen was inoculated on a pair of blood agar plates, one of which was kept

as control and the other was exposed to Agnihotra atmosphere for 5 minutes and kept there for 12 hours, till next Agnihotra time.

It was observed that plate exposed to Agnihotra showed tremendous reduction in zone of beta haemolysis against wide zone of haemolysis in control plate. Further, the Agnihotra exposed strain showed negative coagulase test as against positive coagulase test in the control. Finally, the organisms from both the plates were emulsified separately in 1 ml. of normal saline, their turbidity matched to give suspension of equal strength. These were then inoculated into the thighs of an Albino mouse and observed for 5 days. Suspension from Agnihotra test plate did not produce any lesion whereas the control produced typical abscess. He concludes that Agnihotra has played a pivotal role in controlling metabolic activities of this micro-organism.

In yet another interesting experiment Dr. Mondkar has observed therapeutic effect of Agnihotra Ash in Rabbits. He has successfully treated scabies in Rabbits with Agnihotra ash application. Normally Benzyl Benzoate and Salicylic acid is used and takes 6-8 days to heal the scabies whereas it was observed that a single application of Agnihotra ash ointment cured the scabies in 3 days only and that too without the anxiety of poisoning as may happen with Benzyl Benzoate or Salicylic acid. (Ref. US Satsang, Vol. 9, No. 20, 1982)

Agnihotra effect on aerial microflora was also studied by Dr. Mondkar. Petri plates were kept at various distances from Agnihotra pot, ranging from 5'-8" to 7'-6". After exposure to Agnihotra atmosphere for 2 hours microbial count was taken. It was observed that bacterial colonies of Staph. albus, B Subtilis, Enterococci, E Coli, Staph. Pyo, D. Pneumoniae grown before Agnihotra showed a definite reduction in colony count in 30 to 60 minutes. There is a definite reduction in aerial microflora after performing Agnihotra. (Ref. : US Satsang, Vol. 10, No. 9, Sept., 1982).

Another prominent researcher Dr. B.R. Gupta, Associate Professor, Microbiology, CSA University of Agriculture, Kanpur has conducted similar experiments of effect of Agnihotra on plate count of aerial bacterial flora. He has found that in human residence where no Agnihotra was done the bacterial colony count was 123 as against in the human residence where Agnihotra was performed regularly the

bacterial colony count was as low as a mere 25. (Personal Communication, Dr. B. R. Gupta, CSA University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur, 1987).

Agnihotra ash also has properties to control the growth of pathogenic microflora. The experiment with Agnihotra ash was conducted by Wg. Cdr. D.V.K. Rao, Classified Specialist, Pathology, and Col. R. S. Tiwari, Sr. Advisor, Medicine DIPAS, New Delhi. They too have observed anti-bacterial and wound healing effects of Agnihotra ash.

In this experiment 10 grams of dry Agnihotra ash was added to 100 ml. of distilled water and it was boiled. The solution was filtered and autoclaved. 0.3 ml. of this was distributed on 100, 6 mm. Whatman - No. 1 discs, thus each disc containing 3 microlitre of Agnihotra ash extract. Antibiotic sensitivity test was done on various pathogenic bacteria. It was observed that one strain of pseudomonas and klebscilla gave 10 mm. zone of inhibition, 5 strains of proteus showed 10 mm. zone of inhibition, 7 strains of E Coli showed 9 mm. zone and 5 strains Staphylococcus showed zone of 10 mm. The activity in all cases was found to be bacteriostatic.

Further, Dr. Rao studied the wound healing effect of Agnihotra ash on two Albino rats by excising 15 mm. dia. skin thickness discs from the flanks and after 48 hours applying 25% strength of Agnihotra ash in cow ghee on one side and other was kept as control. Rate of contraction of wound was studied by measuring the diameter of wounds from skin margins daily for 21 days. Once the scar was formed, the healed scars were excised and histopathological examination was done. It was observed that the rate of wound contraction was better with Agnihotra ash applied wound and histopathological examination of scar tissue showed near normal histology in cases of lesion applied with Agnihotra ash as compared to increased fibrous tissue in control lesion.

It is concluded that Agnihotra ash has antibacterial effect against well known pathogenic bacteria such as pseudomonas, proteus, E Coli, klebscilla, staphylococcus which are present in superficial infections and application of Agnihotra ash will be helpful as a counter measure. Further, Agnihotra ash helps wound healing by way of better wound contraction with minimal scar tissue. (US Satsang - Vol. 15, No. 3 - June, 1987).

This experience of wound healing by Agnihotra ash is a global phenomenon now. It has been experienced by many individuals. (Ref. US Satsang, Vol. 15, No. 3, June 1987).

E) Homa Therapy : West Germany :

MONICA JEHL, a West German Pharmacist, has discovered that quite a number of ailments can be cured with the aid of Agnihotra atmosphere and Agnihotra ash. It is popularly known as 'Homa Therapy'. Many have experienced its beneficial effects. A summary of the pharmaceutical study, as published in US Satsang Vol. 11 No. 7 and again reproduced in Vol. 12 No. 18-19, Feb. 1985, is given hereunder :

- * **Frontal Sinusitis :** Performance of regular Agnihotra. Headache disappeared, pus loosened within 3 to 4 days.
- * **Skin Fungus :** Agnihotra ash applied several times daily. Complete healing.
- * **Non-Healing Wound:** External application of Agnihotra powder. Within 3 days complete healing.
- * **Whitlow :** Agnihotra ash powder applied on the skin. Within 3-4 days complete healing, patient had nearly no pains.
- * **Extreme Menstrual Bleeding:** 2 to 3 times daily Agnihotra ash powder taken together with honey internally. Within 8 weeks bleeding went back to normal, migraine headaches and extreme pain disappeared.
- * **Pain in Kidney :** 2 to 3 times daily a pinch of Agnihotra ash powder taken internally. After 1 week all pains gone.
- * **Gastritis :** 3 times Agnihotra ash powder taken internally. Healing, after poisons were secreted through mucous membrane.
- * **Migraine :** 2 times daily a pinch of Agnihotra ash powder taken internally. The period between two migraines became longer and longer; steady tiredness was cured.

- * **Tonsillitis :** Half a teaspoon of Agnihotra ash powder taken internally twice a day. Tonsils go back to normal without fever.

These are the findings based on the experiences of Monica Jehle, Pharmacist, Kollinstrasse 13, 7760 Radolfzell/Bodensee, West Germany.

Personal Communications:

Countless people spread all over the world from different socio-economic status and geographical areas are getting exciting experiences with the daily practice of Agnihotra. It would be rather impossible at this juncture to provide a theory behind this. However, a cross section of these experiences is worthwhile to note here with a view to understand the wider applications of Agnihotra. At the same time it would definitely inspire a keen and honest scientist to probe this matter further.

WOUND HEALING effect of Agnihotra ash was observed by :

- Gladys Medina, Chile, South America (US Satsang, Vol. 12, Feb.' 85)
- Elsbieta Gerlecka, Gdansk, Poland (US Satsang, Vol. 13, No. 10, Oct. 1985).
- Thelma Buitano, Quilpue, Chile (US Satsang, Vol. 14 No. 24 May' 87)
- Ronnie, (Bharatiya Satsang, Vol. 1 No. 1, 1980)
- Jan Taylor Jackson, USA (Bharatiya Satsang, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1980)
- Ingrid Howard, Canada (Bharatiya Satsang, Vol. 3, 1980)
- Krystyana Ojrowska, Warsaw, Poland (US Satsang, Vol. 12, No. 16, Jan., 1985).

Relief from SCABIES, DHOBI ITCH, SKIN FUNGUS, RASHES, WARTS was observed by :

- Krystyana Ojrowska, Warsaw, Poland (Bharatiya Satsang Vol. V, No. 8, 1984)
- Ingrid Howard, Canada (Bharatiya Satsang Vol. 1, No. 3, 1980)

Gladys Medina, Chochiguas Valley, Chile (US Satsang, Vol. 12, No. 18, Feb. 1985).

Dr. Pushpa Joshi, Lonavla, India (US Satsang Vol. 12, 1985)

Lisa Powers, USA (US Satsang, Vol. IX, June, 1981)

Relief from Bronchial ASTHMA, BRONCHIAL TROUBLE was noted by :

Robert Bogota, Columbia, USA (US Satsang, Vol. X, May 1982)

Mrs. R.D., Warsaw, **J.W.,** Warsaw, **S.B.,** Warsaw, (R e f . U S Satsang, Vol. XII, Jan. 1985)

Jindal B.P., Ambala Cantt., India,

S. Chowdhary, New Delhi - (Personal Communication, Oct. 1986)

Elsbieta Gerlecka (US Satsang, Vol. 13, No. 10, Oct. 1985)

Children :

Agnihotra has a wonderfully calming effect on children. Otherwise hyperactive children become quiet in Agnihotra atmosphere - Personal communication in 1985 from Fran Sawyer, USA.

A Pilot study was done on mentally retarded children by Dr. Pachegaonkar and Dr. Barry Rathner at Ambejogai in Maharashtra, India and they have noticed very encouraging results.

Psoriasis :

Relief from Psoriasis was observed by Elsbieta Gerlecka, Poland (Ref. US Satsang, Vol. 13 No. 10, Oct. 1985)

A very small cross section of these personal communications speak about themselves. Need exists for a more detailed scientific study.



EXPERIMENTS ON AGRICULTURE

Healthy and nutritious food is as essential for human subsistence as are pure air and water. Obviously, being the primary need, there is always a growing concern all over the world to produce more and more food. Consequently, there is a constant and conscious effort on the part of the experts in the field of agriculture to devise yet new techniques and methods to get maximum yield from the available land. As a result of this craze, over the years, the age old agricultural practices have undergone sweeping changes with the introduction of latest scientific techniques involving machineries and a variety of chemicals, poisonous one's too. Initially, the agricultural scientists gloried over their achievements but alas, the euphoria was not to last long.

Despite the use of modern technology and increase in the use of chemicals, the entire plant life seems to be reeling under the devastating effect of pollution. The sphere and the scope of this pollution is so wide that it has definitely brought awareness among scientists the world over. Though at the very outset one may not perceive the destruction of the very soil where we produce food since the process is chronic, slow and is without any environmental crisis. Yet the soil is the basis of our very existence and we have to face the crisis here and now due to soil erosion, acid rains, excessive use of chemicals, deforestation, irregular rainfalls, the list is exhaustive and the question is difficult to tackle.

Highlighting the destruction due to soil erosion the author of the book 'Survival of Civilisation' says, "we could very soon find ourselves in the middle of iceage if man does not change agricultural attitudes before 1990". The renewed threat of soil erosion is worst than dustbowl. The average erosion rate has reached far above 5 to 9 tons per acre. Commenting on this fact Dr. Priscilla Grew, Director, Department of Conservation, California (USA) says "where soil is lost civilisation goes with it". So far farmers have been able to mask the damage of soil by applying more and more chemical fertilisers. The flood of these chemicals and its use is so high now that it has invaded the very basic needs of human being, thus posing a threat to his very existence.

ABC (American Broadcasting Corporation) chronicle 8-5-53

cautions that the American drinking water, due to excessive use of chemicals, is capable to cause birth defects, nerve and kidney damage, cancer, thus it is turning universal source of life into universal source of fear. Chemicals are proliferating at a rapid rate of 1000 per year adding to 63,000 already existing in the environment. With chemical fertilisers and pesticides it becomes necessary to increase the dosage and strength or alter the formula. As years go by then a stage comes, if you do not use them nothing grows. If you do use them they ruin soil, sub-soil and water. We are disgustingly trapped. The harmful chemicals are ingested when we eat the food grown in these conditions. Added to this is the problem of acid rains and droughts. The problems are many and there is a need of alternative radical methods of farming and fertilisation.

Recently a report of National Academy of Sciences, Washington (USA) is compiled by Gautam Adhikari and published in the Times of India, Bombay, dated 11th September, 1989. The report says - 'Academy's National Research Council has appealed to the US Government to encourage more productive, environmentally benign farming methods. This appears to go against the conventional wisdom and widely prevalent policies which have discouraged farmers from trying natural techniques. For decades it is taught that the best way to increased crop yield is to use plenty of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. In recent years environmentally conscious groups have strongly argued that natural farming techniques are equally good for farm productivity and positively better for the environment. Their cause is likely to receive a shot in the arm with the publication of this report by the highly respected US science body. The Science Academy further urges to change existing farm policies and encourages practice of natural farming techniques. It comes at a time when there is already widespread concern about industrialised agricultural practices which jeopardise the safety of food. The report has been attacked in industrial circles but the department of agriculture has reacted favourably. It also runs an alternative research agricultural programme of its own. Natural farming is a variety of techniques and they have a common goal of reducing cost, preserving the environment, protecting the human health by lowering or eliminating use of toxic farm chemicals. The studies in Natural Farming have already begun in US since 1984 and have been able to produce 32% higher yield of Corn and 40% higher

yield of Soyabeans without the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides.'

'Dr. Charles E. Hess, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Science and Education, was more enthusiastic about the report and thought that it could turn out to be "unparalleled". He further says "we are at a time when society is highly concious about issues such as food safety and water quality". Outlining the goals of department of agriculture as "having a highly efficient internationally competitive and environmentally safe agriculture", Dr. Hess welcomes the Academy report and felt it could "help us achieve these goals by recommending a course of action". At present five percent of US farmers are already practising natural farming techniques.'

Among these alternative methods, the Agnihotra or Homa Farming is the most ideal method. It is not only safe and productive but wholistic in its approach towards environment. It is based on ancient Vedic science of bio-energy, a process of purification of the atmosphere. The aim of Homa Therapy Farming is :

1. To heal and improve the lands that we cultivate rather than burdening it with pollution of chemicals.
2. To grow superior crops without the use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides.
3. To protect and heal the environment.

Few experiments have been carried out by Agriculture scientists. This new method of Homa Farming is steadily becoming popular. A brief resume of these experiments is discussed here.

Agnihotra effect on Germination of seeds :

Dr. B.G. Bhujbal of Pune's M.J.P. Agriculture University has conducted some experiments on germination of Grape seeds and cuttings in Agnihotra atmosphere. He had observed that despite use of modern technology, like use of hormones, scarification, stratification etc. for germination of grape vines, the germination was very low. It was only 20% and moreover it takes a very long time, as much as 300 days to sprout. With this lacuna in mind, seeds of popular varieties like Anab-e-shahi, Pandhri Sahebi, Kali Sahebi, local vinefra with

some crossed seeds, using local Thompson as parent to make the cross, were chosen by him for the study. All the seeds and some unrooted cuttings of the local grape varieties were kept in Agnihotra environment and were also treated with Agnihotra ash, untreated samples from the same lot were used as control.

Dr. Bhujbal was startled to observe that the first sprouting took place after only 21 days of sowing. Thus Agnihotra atmosphere induced a rapid germination in a short period of 21 days as against control showing 6 months or more. Rooting of cuttings showed 100% rootings in Agnihotra treated cuttings as against 80% rooting in control. The loss of harvest was nil, the crop was disease free and the colour was optimal i.e. Golden Yellow with quality TSS 24% in Agnihotra treated cuttings as compared to 30% loss of harvest and yellow green colour in control group.

Dr. Bhujbal was further amazed to observe that Agnihotra atmosphere helps in Raisin making from grapes. The drying of bunches in Agnihotra atmosphere was complete in 21 days and taste was good in 35 days. (Ref. : Dr. B. G. Bhujbal, Bharatiya Satsang, Vol. I No. 10, March, 1981)

Agnihotra : Increase in Crop Yield :

Dr. Ramashraya Mishra, Associate Professor, Genetics, CSA University of Agriculture, Kanpur has observed effects of Agnihotra ash on Varuna variety of Rai seed. During this study Rai seeds were treated with cow-dung and cow urine and Agnihotra ash for 24 hours before sowing and equal quantity was kept untreated as control.

The experiment consisted of 4 treatments - i) Treated seeds + dusting of Agnihotra ash on standing crops at an interval of 15 days, ii) Treated seeds without dusting of Agnihotra ash, iii) Untreated seeds + dusting of Agnihotra ash and iv) Untreated seeds without dusting of Agnihotra ash. The experiment was laid out at random in six plots with six replications.

Dr. Mishra observed that Agnihotra ash treated seeds with dusting of ash gave a higher yield by 30% i.e. 387 kg./ha. (Quoted by M.S. Parkhe, Vedic Solution for Present Day Problems, Vaidika Samshodhan Mandal, Pune, 1982).

Dr. Ramashraya Mishra conducted few more experiments on germination, yield per plant, pest control etc. He has observed in cultivation of wheat crop that Agnihotra farming gives a better yield as compared to traditional methods.

At the investigation carried out at the Students Instructional Farm at CSA University of Agriculture and Technology at Kanpur during 1985-86 the following results were obtained. The Table shows the effect of Agnihotra on wheat crop.

Types of Farming	% Germination	Time to ripe days	Height of plant Cms.	No. of tillers per plant	Yld per plant Gms.
Agnihotra farming	95	132	65.75	6	7.40
Traditional farming	80	135	51.67	5	6.38
Control	80	125	61.90	4	5.67

Thus, the results revealed that the germination was better, more number of tillers/plant were recorded, the plant was bigger in height, and increase in yield was observed in Agnihotra farming as compared to traditional and control farming. (Ref. U.S. Satsang, Vol. 15 No. 4-5, July 1987).

Agnihotra : Foodgrain Preservation :

Agnihotra ash is found to be useful and handy for preservation of foodgrains. Dr. B.G. Bhujbal (MJP Agriculture University, Pune) has observed in the trial conducted in 1980-81 that spoilage of foodgrains due to pest is common. Though chemical pesticides can be used as a preservative but it gives a bad offensive smell. During the study one kg. each of the following foodgrains were selected for the experiment :

Wheat, Jowar M35-1, Pearl Millet, Green Gram (moong)-local phaseolus aureus, Gram, husked rice and 4 groups were made :-

1. Control
2. Application of 1% Agnihotra Ash
3. Application of 1% B.H.C. (10%) dust
4. Application of ordinary ash

These grains were observed for 90 days and it was concluded that only Agnihotra ash treated grains and BHC 1 % treated grains were effective in keeping the insect attack at zero percent. However, on qualitative examination the lots treated with BHC 1% were rejected by housewives due to offensive smell. It was noted that Agnihotra ash can serve as an excellent media for preservation of foodgrains. (Ref. : Dr. B.G. Bhujbal, Pune. US Satsang, Vol. IX, Jan. 7, 1982)

Arlene Davis of Baltimore (USA) has observed control of Gypsy Moth infestation. This insect pest defoliates large areas of forest. In an experiment conducted on a choosen site in Cecil County of Maryland (USA) he has observed that Agnihotra ash has served as an adjunct whereas only chemical spraying did not control Gypsy Moth pest on trees in the area. (Ref. US Satsang, Vol. XI, No. 12, Nov., 1983)

Dr. Ramashraya Mishra (CSA Agriculture University, Kanpur) observed reduction in infection from *Alternaria blight* while experimenting on Rai crop with Agnihotra ash. (Ref. Pp 89, Agnihotra - Vedic Solution for Present Day Problems, M.S. Parkhe, Vaidika Samshodhan Mandal, Pune, 1982).

Similar Pest Control results were observed with Agnihotra ash in Baltimore (USA) and Chile (South America). (Ref. : US Satsang, Vol. XII No. 16, 1985).

A note titled 'Man, Environment and Agnihotra' (1989) by Dr. R. Mishra and Dr. B.R. Gupta of CSA University of Agriculture, Kanpur stresses the need of Agnihotra way of farming and have quoted a renowned soil scientist, Dr. N.R. Dhar who has indicated the process of photochemical nitrogen fixation in soil system. It is believed that 'there might be possibility of photochemical nitrogen fixation due to Agnihotra ash in soil - thus improving the fertility of soil.'

A book 'Homa Therapy Our Last Chance' by Vasant Paranjpe is published by Five Fold Path Inc., Madison, USA in 1986. The book deals at length with possible effects of pollution and has offered solace and remedy in the form of Homa Therapy based on Vedic knowledge. It deals with the methodology of this unique therapy. Already this method has become popular and is in practice in Chile, USA, Poland, West Germany and people have grown better crops without chemical fertilisers or pesticides or herbicides. Moreover, it is emphasised that earthworms multiply in Agnihotra atmosphere. Earthworms generate more moisture as their hormone secretion is increased in the yagnya atmosphere which is certainly beneficial for the soil. It is established that the system of Homa Therapy Farming is very economical and it produces hygienically nutritious crop with higher yield.

With a view to enlarge the sphere of application and to elaborate the benefits derivable from Agnihotra/Yagnya a Project of Reforestation was submitted to UNITED NATIONS Geneva Meeting in June, 1984 which was attended by various UN officers, UN consultants, institute directors, co-ordinators, journalists and teachers. It was appreciated by all concerned. Subsequently, a report titled 'Homa Therapy - Holistic Healing' by Vasant Paranjpe was published in the Tree Project, United Nations, International Youth Year, 1985, Geneva Meeting.

'Secrets of the Soil'

The impact of Agnihotra and its effect on plant life attracted the famous authors of the Best Seller 'Secret Life of Plants' - Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird of USA. They have brought out a new book 'SECRETS OF THE SOIL'. The book is published by Harper & Row, New York in June, 1989. A chapter on Pp 244-251 highlights the effect of Agnihotra - Homatherapy. Authors have personally interviewed people involved in Homa Therapy at Baltimore (USA), Yugoslavia and Poland and have brought out valuable information. The excerpts of which are given below :

'During their visit to 'Paramdham' at Baltimore they met the Messenger Vasant who explained in detail the working of Agnihotra. John Brown and Noni Ford apprised them with their experience when they explained that with homa farming the colour and taste of potatoes

is remarkable. They had raspberry right up into the frost. Despite drought and freezes they had wonderful peaches, pears and apples. John Brown further said that they grow superior crops with the help of Homa Therapy without chemical fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides. The explanation for this was provided by Vasant V. Paranjpe - "Fire produces sound, but it also reacts to sound. If special vibrations are sung while fire burns in the pyramid shaped pot there is a resonance effect. Ancient science states that it invigorates the cells of plants and helps the reproductive cycle. Resonance plays a vital part in nature."

'A group of scientists in Rovinj, Yugoslavia are experimenting to establish just what Agnihotra does and how? Their interest had been aroused by the discovery that after they burned required ingredients in the copper pyramid their instruments failed to pick up radio activity in the immediate area, an anomaly since the Chernobyl disaster. Similarly, intrigued by these mysterious developments, the Soviets have invited one of the scientists from Yugoslavia, Mato Modric, a biologist and an expert in electromagnetic fields, dowsing and geopathogenic zones, to visit the Soviet Union to demonstrate the method of Agnihotra in the cherished hope that it may be of considerable value to its citizens.'

'Physical explanation of depolluting effect of Agnihotra was explained by Pat Flanagan - "The colloidal molecules of cow ghee and cow manure could chelatingly attract and grab pollutants in the air, the way water is purified by being flocculated. The seized molecules, he added, as they settle on the ground would alkalise the soil and if they came into contact with a plant they would stick to leaves and act as a time-release foliar nutrient. Physically, because of the ghee and the manure the smoke would be electrically charged." He has promised to pursue the matter further.'

Release of Phosphates with Agnihotra Ash :

Agnihotra ash is found to release soluble phosphate from soil. In a personal communication, Tung Ming, a chemist from USA, has found that Agnihotra ash when mixed with soil increases the soluble phosphates. The work is done in January, 1987. :

0.10 g. of Agnihotra ash was shaken with 25ml. of water for 48 hours and water soluble phosphates measured. The same amount of

Agnihotra ash was mixed with two different soils - 5 g. soil (from Colorado) and 25 ml. water was mixed and shaken for 48 hours; the average duplicate values were found as per table given below :

Soil used	Ash added	Water soluble phosphate (P) extracted
None	Non-Agnihotra ash	0.68 micro gm. p./02 gm ash
None	Agnihotra ash	1.78 micro gm. p./02 gm ash
Weldloam	Non-Agnihotra ash (0.02 g ash/g. soil)	4.2 micro gm. p/gm. soil
Weldloam	Agnihotra ash (0.02 g ash/g. soil)	17.2 micro gm. p/gm. soil
Red Feather Loamy Sand	Non-Agnihotra ash (0.02 g ash/ g soil)	2.3 micro gm. p/gm. soil
Red Feather Loamy Sand	Agnihotra ash (0.02 g ash/g. soil)	11.5 micro gm. p/gm. soil

Obviously the Agnihotra ash helps soil to release 'P'. Agnihotra ash has distinctly very significant effects. It is, therefore, necessary to investigate and test what other nutrients are derivable from the soil with the help of Agnihotra ash.

Vasant Paranjpe says, "when one performs Agnihotra he acts as a biological transducer because fire is described as a special state of matter. There are various subtler levels of energies. The moment you perform Agnihotra, these various energies at lower levels get transformed and become beneficial to man. It is stated that if you do Agnihotra under a tree, the tree begins to dance. Perhaps we can measure the effect on the sap and so many other aspects about it."

Homa Therapy farming is becoming popular everywhere because it is the most economical, easy method assuring a rich bounty and lusciously nutritious harvest. Gleeful farmers, housewives tending kitchen gardens and keen workers spread all over the world have conveyed their heart-warming experiences through personal communications. Such communications are pouring in plenty and hence efforts are being made to study these scientifically for the benefit of one and all.

Few of these outstanding experiences are quoted hereunder :

FRANCISCO FERNANDES, Andes Mountains, Chile, South America. He has been doing Homa Therapy Farming for quite some time now in Andes. He has experienced beneficial effects on various plants like -

* He has Tangerines, oranges, lemons, grapefruits, peaches, pears, apricots, apples, almonds, plums, figs, avocados etc. With the use of Homa Therapy farming techniques some of the trees gave fruits even when they were only 1 year old.

* Wheat : Canadeal Barba Negra variety of wheat seed was planted very close to the place where daily Agnihotra is performed. No ash was used. The wheat received only the smoke from the Agnihotra fire. Only this treatment enabled the wheat to grow very high and the yield was double.

* Lima Beans : With the use of Agnihotra ash height reached to 1.6 meters as against 0.8 meters common in the area. The yield improved abundantly.

(Ref. : US Satsang, Vol. 12 No. 18-19, Feb. 1985)

GLYDES MEDINA, Zanjón Hondo, Cochiguas, Elqui Valley, Chile, observed the following effects with Homa Therapy farming techniques :

* Zucchini (a kind of vegetable), the size increased to as large as 40 cms. long and 15 cm. in diameter. The vegetable changed genetically in a positive way and the flavour too was better than before.

* Tomatoes : (uncertified seeds used) - When the plants got flowers, infection of Tizon bacteria was noticed - first they powdered sulphur but there was no result. Later, Agnihotra ash was used with the result the crop was abundant and tasty.

* Lettuce : Normally grown only near the coast, however, this crop could still be grown at this high altitude place, at 2000 meters above sea level. The crop turned out to be large and nourishing.

* Pears : (a fruit) : In the previous year there was 'Grapholita'

kind of insect infection to fruits. Following year with the use of Homa-therapy techniques beautiful big size fruits were grown. The taste was superb and yield was great.

* Grapes : Termites on grapes were found. Phosphorous with insecticides killed adult termites but larvae continued burrowing into the plants. Agnihotra ash solution was used for disinfection. Termites disappeared totally.

(US Satsang Vol. 12 Nos. 18 & 19, Feb. 1985).

AGNIHOTRA - SUBTLE ENERGY

It is a scientific curiosity to delve into the realm of the mind since mind plays a definite role in human lives. This leads to infinite questions about Universe and its functions and also towards subtle energy science popularly known as Vital Energy, Psychotronics, Bio-energy or Bioplasmic Energy, Prana.

This vital energy previously unknown is connected with living things. Soviet scientists have developed interest in this since the development of Kirlian discovery. Now this Bioplasmic energy can be documented on photographs.

Everybody has psychic powers but most of us are unaware of them. To cause these powers to work we need something to evoke them or to reinforce them. This (something) can be Agnihotra. This vital energy is more intimate energy than electricity or X ray and is a scintillating idea which asks for a leap in scientific imagination. The Soviet discovery of Kirlian photography has proved to be a missing link between so called occult and so called physical and this missing link could be better understood through the study of Vedic wisdom, the unit of which is Agnihotra.

Authorities, Scientists all over the world dealing with subtle energy science are fascinated with Agnihotra and have experimented it with their instruments. A brief review is appended below :

Agnihotra & Radiesthesia :

Radiesthesia Society of Poland was founded in 1976 and Mr. Lech Emfazy Stefanski, the author of the best-seller "From Magic to Psychotronics", is its President. Since Agnihotra was introduced to

them in 1981, Agnihotra is one of the section of their routine. Mr. S. Gozdzik is incharge of the Agnihotra section. In their report in 1983 of the Radiesthesia Symposium held in Warsaw they stated that Dr. Ulrich Berk from West Germany explained the healthful influence of Agnihotra on humans and plants.

Also, Krystyana Ojrowska from Warsaw found good results and healing in cases of nervous system disorders, asthma, skin diseases, eye, ear and heart diseases. Agnihotra is spreading rapidly in Poland through the Radiesthesia Society of Warsaw. (US Satsang, Vol. Nos. 10-11, Oct. 1985)

Paper on Radiation :

'Radiation' is the current threat to humanity. It is spreading its tentacles all over the globe. Man is ensnared by it. In this field also particularly effective results with respect to elimination or reduction in the radio activity were achieved through Agnihotra fire and ash. This observation is made after using PSI skills. Leszek Matela, Antoninkowska 10 AM, 45P 15-845, Bialystok, Poland has revealed this valuable and useful information through his article in German (Courtesy "ZEITSCHRIFT FUR RADIASTHESIE". Munich 39 Jahrgang Januar-Marz 1987). In this article the author states that every couple of hours the radioactivity in the atmosphere and in the drinking water was measured by the Radiesthetes in Bialystok, the largest North-Eastern city of Poland, which also made possible an independent check on the existing quantity of radiation. Two weeks later these measurements were compared with the official data of the International Atomic Energy Agency. They concurred with each other to a great extent. The author of this report has further tested the effectiveness of Agnihotra under conditions of higher gamma doses output. The soil radio activity was reduced by sprinkling it with water solution of Agnihotra ash. (Ref. : US Satsang, Vol. 15, No. 20, March, 1988)

Agnihotra and Eloptic Energy :

Dr. T. Galen Hieronymus of Lakemont, Georgia has done very significant scientific research work during the last 60 years. Dr. Galen and Dr. Sarah Hieronymus have done and continue to do extremely important work in the field of evolution of our planet. Specifically, Dr. Galen's pioneering research with Eloptic Energy, a term that he

coined, is extremely encouraging. This (Eloptic Energy) according to them is energy radiating from or a force field surrounding each isotope of each element of material matter in the universe. When two or more elements are joined together into a molecule of matter, that molecule radiates an energy that is peculiar to that molecular combination. This is Eloptic Energy - 'EI' for electricity - 'optic' for optic - because it has some, but not all, characteristics of these forms of energy. Dr. Galen has invented and patented an instrument, the Eloptic Energy Analyser, a quantity measuring device. This device gives the indication of intensity of energy radiation from the material being analysed. This is referred to as the 'energy body' which Kirlian photography has noted as 'photographing.' Dr. Sarah Hieronymus has used this instrument for healing aspects and genetic engineering of herbs and plants.

On June 26, 1983, the Advanced Science & Research Development Corporation, Georgia with Dr. Sarah and Galen Hieronymus have conducted experiments with Agnihotra which included 3 participants alongwith 3 plants - Jade, Begonia, Geranium.

Readings from specimens of plants and participants were taken inside the lab. approx 20 feet from where Agnihotra was performed, outside on patio.

Prior to Agnihotra 4 categories of measurements were taken - 1) Vitality, 2) Adrenals, 3) Heart and 4) Chlorophyll. Time and sequences were noted, the difference between readings before and after were noted. It was observed that there is increase in intensity of radiation of Eloptic Energy in each category for each participant. However, in plants there were only two exceptions in Adrenal category for Geranium which showed no change and the Heart category for the Begonia indicated a -3 decrease. Dr. Galen purposely did not meditate during this experiment to avoid the effect of this factor. (US Satsang, Vol.11 Nos.8-9, Sept., 1983).

In February, 1984 another experiment was conducted using Agnihotra ash. Dr. Galen's 'cosmic pipe invention' was used and the following procedure was adopted :

First, the leaf of a shrub outside the laboratory was taken and general vitality was measured and found to be approximately 250,

which is in the normal range. Next, the cosmic pipe was activated and again the plant's reaction was measured. Vitality increased to 500. Next, an herb reagent was inserted into the pipe and vitality increased to 700. Finally, ash from the morning Agnihotra was inserted as a reagent and the vitality doubled to 1700. It is concluded that Agnihotra ash is one of the most powerful reagents discovered in the use of psychotronic devices.

Another experiment was conducted in Arkansas by a farmer named Mark Mohler, a Research Associate of Advanced Sciences Research and Development. Using the psychotronic device he found that with Agnihotra mantra and Agnihotra ash he could protect his blueberries even when the temperature dropped to 20 degrees F which covered everything with a white frost. He reported that his berries were bigger than ever. (Jerry Hodges, US Satsang, Vol.13 No.5, July 1985).

Agnihotra and AMI Studies :

Dr. Hiroshi Motoyama of Tokyo, Japan at the Institute of Religious Psychology is renowned for his work in collecting physiological measurements in response to charges induced through the etheric forms of energy by monitoring bio-feedback instruments. He has devised an apparatus for Measuring the functioning of the Meridians and Their Corresponding Internal Organs (AMI), an instrument for measuring electric field surrounding the body, the so called '*Chakra*' instrument.

An experiment was conducted with copper pyramid healing fires with Homa for 15 minutes. Measurements were taken before and after the Homa on what is called '*Anahat Chakra*'. The reported result was that the *Anahat Chakra* reflected a similar condition that exists after a psychic healing, such as laying of hands (spiritual healing). It would be interesting to find out what would be the effect of Agnihotra on these *Chakras*. (Ref. US Satsang, Vol.13 No.7, Aug., 1985).

Agnihotra - Effects on Yogic Chakras :

One of the experiences of Edward Aichbauer and his wife Ingrid Aichbauer (quoted in US Satsang, Vol.12 No.2, June, 1984)

during their visit to Solo, also known as Surakarta, in Indonesia, the effect of Agnihotra on *Chakra* was noted as under :

One day Mr. Suyono Hanongdarsono, a humble philosopher with much learning and hailing from the same town, that is Solo, invited a group of people which included a man who could experience subtle energies in a special way. *Vyahruti Homa*, a healing fire, which can be performed any time other than sunrise or sunset to create harmonious effect, was performed in the copper pyramid. When the fire was over, this person with special experience commented that 'I could see green light above the copper pyramid and the energy from the earth was influencing the basic *chakra* and forcing the rise of the *Kundalini*'.

In the evening, when the Sunset Agnihotra was performed the same man with special experience commented that 'after mantras were uttered I saw a yellow, golden light above pyramid and energies were coming from the sun. The energies were not affecting a particular *chakra* but were all together in the same manner very very positive.'

It was interesting to note how this description differed from the experience with the other Homa.

Agnihotra is essential and favourably useful for Yogic practices since it cleanses the atmosphere and Prana (life energy) depends on the atmosphere. Prana and mind are like two sides of the same coin. It is a general experience of many that Agnihotra atmosphere helps in better concentration during meditation.

Speaking at the Seven Continent Dowsers Group Spring Convention held in May, 1985 at Chicago, Illinois (USA) Jerry Hodges said, "the first time I did it (Agnihotra), the experienced result was astounding. I decided that without instrumentation, I would just try to tune into the atmospheric changes that this fire may cause, so I observed through a meditative state. As a person who practices meditation I would typically sit for an hour, and as you experienced meditators know, after such a period you generally experience a certain depth of peace or change in condition. Well, in the first 3 minutes I reached the same depth that would normally have taken an hour." (US Satsang, Vol.13 No.5, July 1985).

Agnihotra and Kirlian Photography :

The book 'Psychic Discoveries Behind The Iron Curtain' by Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder states that the concept of human aura, a radiating luminous cloud surrounding the body, goes back centuries. The pictures from early Egypt, India, Greece, Rome showed holy figures in a luminous surround or halos. The famous psychic, Mrs. Eileen Garrett, reports in her book *Awareness*, "I have always seen every plant, animal and person encircled by a misty surround and according to peoples mood the surround changes colours and consistency." The illness, emotion, state of mind, thoughts and fatigue all make their distinct imprint on the pattern of energy which seemed to circulate continuously through the human body.

The amazing new world of pulsating multi-coloured lights or the auras are visible when body is placed in the field of high frequency electrical currents. The concept of human aura was put into reality in 1939 at Krasnodar (USSR) by Semyon Davidovich Kirlian who developed this technique of Kirlian photography. This technique allows one to see in living things signals of inner state of organism reflected in brightness, dimness and colour of the flares. Soon Soviet and other scientists developed interest and now its application in various fields are being studied.

Technique : Basically, photography with high frequency electrical fields involves a specially constructed high frequency spark generator or oscillator that generates 75,000 to 200,000 electrical oscillations per second. The generator can be connected to various clamps, plates, optical instruments, microscopes or electron microscopes. The object to be investigated (finger, leaf etc.) is inserted between the clamps along with photo paper. The generator is switched on and high frequency field is created between the clamps which apparently causes the object to radiate some sort of bio-luminescence onto the photo paper. A camera is not necessary for the photography process. With the special optical instrument this phenomenon can also be observed in motion. (Ref.: 'Psychic Discoveries Behind The Iron Curtain' by Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder).

Matthias Fehringer of Radolfzell, West Germany conducted a series of experiments with Agnihotra Ash and Kirlian photography.

Experiments :

1. Equal quantity of pure water was dissolved with wood ash in one container and Agnihotra ash in another container. Kirlian photographs showed more harmonious spread of energy in Agnihotra ash.
2. Kirlian photographs of human thumb were taken under normal conditions on three different days with different conditions of the mind. Similar Kirlian photographs were taken on 3 days but this time with Agnihotra ash in closed hand. Kirlian photograph revealed more energy, coronas on the outside had more density and were very strong as a result of the Agnihotra ash.
3. Human Hand - Kirlian photographs 10 minutes before and 10 minutes after Agnihotra were taken of several persons on several Agnihotra times. It always showed increased energy with healing effect after Agnihotra though each person photographed did not know what Agnihotra was before the experiment. It is concluded that Agnihotra's positive effects do not depend on human thinking.
4. Plants are found to react quickly to their surroundings. Experiments with tomato plant showed increased energy and harmony after Agnihotra.
5. In yet another experiment coloured Kirlian photograph of a living Spearmint plant before Agnihotra showed 'red surrounding' meaning aggressiveness; outside corona badly focussed meaning excited plant and inner corona big and white meaning activity. The same plant was photographed after Agnihotra and it revealed 'blue surrounding' meaning relaxation, outside corona well focussed suggesting tranquility and calmness; small and white inner corona depicted concentration.

Thus, it was concluded that Agnihotra has a positive effect on human beings and plants.

Agnihotra & Nature Cure :

An eminent Naturopath, Dr. B. Venkata Rao, in his book

'PANCH TANTRA' writes :

"If, for any reason, man becomes a victim of disease, his body itself can cure it. The human body is an all-powerful dynamo."

"The modern civilisation has separated man from Nature. Modern man has, therefore, lost confidence in the natural methods. People are behaving as they like, ignoring the laws of nature. The modern age has taken us away from nature to such an extent that we cannot even breathe properly. We have forgotten that we have to live under fresh air and sun-rays."

"Nature cure believes that the body heals itself. In the human body every cell and tissue is endowed with the instinct of self-preservation.... When these tiny microscopic cells are supplied with proper nutrition, efficient drainage and innervation i.e. constant and regular nerve supply, they do their work efficiently."

Similarly, the renowned Natural Therapeutician, Henry Lindlahr, M.D., defines 'Health' and 'Disease' etc. in his book 'Philosophy and Practice of Nature Cure' in these words :

"Health is normal and harmonious vibration of the elements and forces composing the human entity on the physical, mental and moral planes of being, in conformity with the constructive principle in Nature applied to individual life."

"Disease is abnormal or inharmonious vibration of the elements and forces composing the human entity on one or more planes of being, in conformity with the destructive principle in Nature applied to individual life."

"The Primary cause of disease, barring accidental or surgical injury to the human organism and surroundings hostile to human life, is violation of Nature's laws."

Dr. Lindlahr suggests the following 'methods of treatment in conformity with the constructive principle of Nature' :

1. Establish normal surroundings and natural habits of life in accord with Nature's laws;
2. Economize vital force;

3. Build up the blood on a natural basis; that is, supply the blood with its natural constituents in right proportions.
4. Promote the elimination of waste material and poisons without in any way injuring the human body;
5. Correct mechanical lesions;
6. Arouse the individual in the highest possible degree to the consciousness of personal responsibility and to the necessity of intelligent personal effort and self-help.

Thus, it is evident that 'Nature Cure' solely depends on 'Nature' i.e. atmospheric conditions which, in fact, governs the entire life process on planet earth. Air, Water, Land, Flora & Fauna, every living being is influenced by the conditions of the atmosphere. There are various rhythmic cycles of Nature which, during their transitional moments, cause sudden changes in the atmosphere. Such changes either leave a good or bad effect on all life on earth. The resonance effect of these changes is immediate and, therefore, needs due and timely attention. Agnihotra performed exactly at sunrise/sunset takes care of this very essential aspect.

These 'rhythms of nature' influence the human body functions due to light-waves, electro-magnetic powers and atmospheric pressures. The ancient Vedic medical science honoured the importance of these rhythmic cycles by using it to advantage for the overall development of human body, mind and wisdom. The practice of daily Agnihotra is based on one such rhythm of nature i.e. sunrise/sunset.

This particular rhythm of nature has a specific importance in the lives of humans. Performance of Agnihotra exactly synchronising the momentarily activated period of sunrise/ sunset results in attracting a stream of vital life sustaining energies of the solar system towards the earth. This is tremendously beneficial for maintaining perfect health because the atmosphere is cleansed of all pollutants, pathogenic bacterias and all such disease prone elements. Agnihotra acts as nutrition to body, mind and spirit.

Apart from resetting and effectively harmonising the atmosphere, Agnihotra helps in creating a conducive and right

atmosphere for meditation. This enables in obtaining maximum advantage of the purifying atmosphere. Gradually mind becomes steady and concentration is easy. The Prana (life energy) automatically gets purified which ultimately purifies the mind, mind heals the body and hence the effect of this positive change of atmosphere is naturally transposed to the realm of the mind. This powerful mind energy is directed to the well being of a person. The blood carrying vessels get sufficiently expanded and the blood circulation in the body functions smoothly. The entire nervous system gets rejuvenated and works more efficiently. The pores of the skin open during Agnihotra. The medicinal air enters the skin and acts as a healing agent.

Homa atmosphere and Homa-therapy agriculture will produce natural and superior crops free from ill effects of the chemical poisons. Apart from that Homa-therapy medicines (made from Agnihotra ash) and Agnihotra life-style rejuvenates the man and his surroundings. Homa-therapy ash medicines are used without disturbing the natural hygiene. Ash baths makes the skin softer and brighter. Thus, in this therapy the patient does not merely enter a programme of treatment but himself assumes the responsibility of recovery towards healthier state. Agnihotra acts as a catalyst to boost the effect in the atmosphere.

In the present times, the importance of Agnihotra has been very well realised by academicians and one of the most leading Naturopathy Institutes in the country 'M. G. Nisargopachar Vidyapeeth, Pune' headed by Dr. Jainarayan Jaiswal, have included Agnihotra studies in thier curriculum.

Writing about 'Life' Dr. Lindlahr says, "The vitalistic conception of life regards vital force at the primary force of all forces, coming from the great central source of all life. This force, which pemeats, heats and animates the entire created universe, is an expression of divine intelligence and will, the 'logos', the 'word' of the great Creative Intelligence. It is this divine energy which sets in motion the whirls in the ether, the electric corpuscles that make up the atoms and elements of matter."

"These electrons are positive and negative forms of electricity. Electricity is a form of energy. It is intelligent enrgy; otherwise it

could not act with that same wonderful precision in the electrons of the atoms as in the suns and planets of the sidereal universe."

"This intelligent energy can have but one source : the will and intelligence of the Creator... If this Supreme Intelligence should withdraw its creative energy, the electric charges (forms of energy) and with it the atoms, elements, and the entire material universe would disappear in the flash of a moment."

Agnihotra is a gift to humanity. It gives everything that life needs. The environment is set to proper motion by the regular practice of Agnihotra. Man becomes fearless, brave and is ready to face any situation in life with a confidence. The contentment he derives while fulfilling his duties and obligations towards nature in particular and society in general is beyond any other achievement and, therefore, satisfying. In fact, he assumes the responsibility of maintaining the very essential ecological balance. Agnihotra is all powerful. In every field of science it is proving its essentiality. Scientists are wonderstruck and very happy at what they find in this wonder weapon. It has never disappointed any researcher or scientist, on the contrary, they are now vigorously pursuing yet more interesting probings.

Agnihotra has cut through all barriers of race, religion, sex and economic chord (level) in every continent to form a core behavioural practice which ultimately will lead to happiness. Agnihotra provides a relief to all confusion and misery. If the 'modus operandi', given herein for practicing Agnihotra, is followed strictly and sincerely, future experiments can reveal many more outstanding findings which would certainly help the humanity. However, experiments based on bias may or may not satisfy the curiosity of a single person and, at the same time, it would not be useful to the society as well.

We have presented a brief resume of the work done so far on Agnihotra. Vedic knowledge reveals much more wider aspect. If you work with open mind you will find that it works and, if it works, 'DO IT' and 'DO IT NOW' for it is the need of the hour.

HEAL THE ATMOSPHERE, PERFORM AGNIHOTRA.



AGNIHOTRA ... The wonder weapon

One of the effects of pollution is thought pollution. This is serious. The population of Drug Addicts is threateningly increasing day by day. The problem of drug addiction is a global one..... This difficult area was chosen to experiment effect of Agnihotra on a demotivated and resistant case of drug addict..... The experiment was successful and the psychiatrist and his team have made observations and analysed the details.....

'Agnihotra is found to have neuro-physiological effect on human body and brain. Computerised EEG studies has shown delta wave suppression and alpha wave activation in frontal leads during Agnihotra. Clinically it produces mental tranquility and reported to have useful adjunct effect on deaddiction

The common man is facing a new dimension in the form of terrible stress and mental tension. It upsets the very concept of life. Agnihotra is known to give relief from anxiety and mental tension, and it leaves one free to function normally in a healthy way.....

Homa Therapy farming is becoming popular everywhere because it is the most economical, easy method assuring a rich bounty and lusciously nutritious harvest.....

Human Hand - Kirlian photographs 10 minutes before and 10 minutes after Agnihotra were taken of several persons on several Agnihotra times. It always showed increased energy with healing effect after Agnihotra.....